

much about what our children are doing and don't take enough interest in their little lives. I know there would have been an awful roar by fathers if there was such negligence in an office building where they worked." The point is that the children didn't report or complain because they didn't know their rights. They take for granted things that are not explained to them. Somebody ought to prepare a school text book on "Children's Rights."—Father.

UNION TROUBLES.—I am writing this to do what I can to keep the building trades workers of Chicago informed about this new agreement which bids fair to be the rock on which labor will be a house divided against itself. At the plumbers' meeting this agreement was adopted by an oligarchy of officials, their stool pigeons and sluggers. There seemed to be an incipient rebellion against it, but after one member dared to get up and protest against it he was slugged and denounced as an outsider, an anarchist and a Socialist. The president would entertain no motion from the floor, although at least four were made and seconded.

I have been a member of the Chicago plumbers for 13 years and I can safely say that never has their situation been so dangerous. Distrust of the officials is unanimous and no hope for a change; 1,800 plumbers dominated by a handful of booze-holsters without a suggestion of capacity other than mediocre, with the resort to the iron heel, the mailed fist and the spittoon to overcome objection, officials will sell every possible thing that they can make a commodity of, interested in supply houses and political anti-labor propaganda. With them all things for or against labor are a commodity for sale to the enemies of labor.

I am not writing this to invite further discussion on how labor unions can rid themselves of enemies on the

inside. I shall not dare to sign my name for the sake of my wife and children. — Union Plumber, Local 130 N. A.

CITY GET THREE PER CENT.

In an argument with one of the telephone company's minor officials recently he made the assertion that the Chicago Telephone Co. gave the city 55 per cent of their gross earnings, the same as the city railways do. He is in a position to know, and seemed in earnest when he said it. Will you kindly say if you know of any such arrangement between the telephone company and the city, and greatly oblige.—G. A. Selleck.

Answer.—The Chicago Telephone Co. pays the city three per cent of its gross earnings from "all sources," according to its franchise. On Aug. 31, 1914, the company paid the city comptroller \$221,993.36, this representing the 3 per cent for the first 6 months of 1914. The statement on the last 6 months was not available at the city comptrollers' office.—Editor.

THE P. M. GENERAL.—"Scratch a Russian and you will find a Tartar." That saying may apply to a southerner, our postmaster general, Burleson by name, a Texan, who unknowingly inherited that southern slave-owner's cold-blooded attitude toward the fellow who has to work for a living. He was able to deceive the public by putting on a polished front, but the public scratched him and they found a "Tartar."

There is a deficit in the U. S. post-office. In the face of this deficit this Texan admits catalogues from mail order houses to parcel post rates, thereby saving the mail order concerns \$2,500,000 and causing a falling off of postal receipts of like amount.

He has found a scheme whereby the expense of the department can be cut down. It is to cut the salaries of the men who do the work in the